[*English*]

Agreement for Joint Development of Cellular Mobile Telephone System

1336. SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to enter into an agreement with a foreign firm for Joint development of cellular mobile telephone system;

(b) whether initially 25,000 lines are proposed to be imported to meet the demand of the metropolitan cities; if so, the cost thereof, capital and recurring;

(c) the average urban and rural population in the country served by one telephone connection separately as on April 1, 1991;

(d) the number of Gram Panchayats with population of 5,000 and above which do not have any telephone connection as on April 1, 1991; and

(e) whether the Government consider postponing the introduction of cellular mobile telephone in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Against a Tender Enquiry of M/s Motorola, a U.S. firm, for development and supply of cellular application platform, C-DOT has submitted a bid and signed a letter of intent with M/s Motorola to enter into a contractual relationship that will enable Motorola Cellular Systems to work with C-DOT switches through appropriate interfaces.

(b) No Sir.

(c) The average urban and rural population in the country served by one telephone connection separately as on 1-4-91 is 51 and 1154 respectively.

(d) Out of 4,503 villages having population of 5,000 and above only 133 villages do not have any telephone connection as on 1-4-91.

(e) No, Sir. All aspects of the proposal are under examination.

[*Translation*]

Sidhmukh and Nohar Projects in Rajasthan

1337. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the present position of the Sidhmukh and Nohar Projects in Sri Ganganagar district of Rajasthan;

(b) the estimated cost of those projects and the area likely to be irrigated thereby; and

(c) the time by which those projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) The Sidhmukh and Nohar Projects of Rajasthan have been accorded investment clearance by the Planning Commission in July 1990. The State Government has informed that work on these projects has been taken up in 1990-91 and a total expenditure of Rs. 1.46 crores was incurred in that year. For 1991-92, an allocation of Rs. 4.75 crores has been made. Both these projects have been posed for external assistance.

(b) The estimated cost and the area to be irrigated by these projects is as under:—

Project	*Cost (Rs. Crores)*	*Annual Irrigation (hectares)*	*Tehsils benefitted*
Sidhmukh	103	13620	Nohar and Bhadra in Sriganganagar district and Rajgarh and Taranagar in Churu district.
Nohar	40.59	13665	Nohar